**Vulnerable Populations**

**Multicultural Expansion**

Human service professionals work in diverse and sometimes multicultural settings. They meet different people with different backgrounds and upbringings, different cultures and beliefs as their own (Gray et al.,2015). Given this kind of work environment, they need to be well versed with various people's culture to make them professionally competitive. This paper will discuss; Arab and western cultures, their dynamics, what human service professionals need to do, in the event in their line of duty they encounter clients of these cultures to make them comfortable. It will also deal with the plan needed to implement human service professionals in learning the Arab and Western cultures to enhance inclusivity in their practice.

Globalization has made it easy and paramount for people of different cultures to meet in pursue education in international institutions, engage in global pertinent issues, and even do business. With this realization, the services of Human service Professional has been of much help to bridge these divides. For example, Arab and western cultures are two cultures that seem to be the exact opposite of each other. From religion, family setup, mode of dressing, socialization structure, and ways of doing business seem to differ. Arab countries are endowed with natural resources, while western countries are endowed with human and technological prowess (Berger et al.,2015). The differences in endowments make them trade with each other, meaning they interact more often, hence making them culturally competent.

Arabs are mostly Islam-practicing people, while Westerners are mostly Christians. Arabs, due to the influence of Islamic teachings and their teaching, are more collectivists, while the Westerners are individualists. Arabs prefer group loyalty and family closeness. Westerners, on the other hand, like individual interests to family interests, family interests to national importance. Arabs have their dressing prescribed by religion; their counterparts have personal choice and preference. When doing business or in the management of organizations, Westerners are more accommodative; they consider the opinions and perspectives of their employees and customers. They also are free to use different and new approaches in dealing with issues that may arise in their day-to-day life processes. Arabs, however, are authoritarian. Their decision-making processes are centralized to a familiar figure (leader). Their emerging approach is rigid to already existing codes, rules, and traditions (Abdel-Raheem,2020). From the few illustrations, it is evident that for a meaningful engagement to take place, cultural competence must be embraced; that is where Human Service Professionals come in.

Understanding human needs, being responsive, teamwork is some of the skills needed by HSPs. Accepting and adapting to the fact that no idea, culture, and religion, be it Western or Arab, is superior to another equally helps. Empathy is one other important skill needed as this makes one open and accommodated. In the process, the clients can be comfortable to engage (Chenoweth& McAuliffe,2017). For HSPs to promote inclusivity in their practice, they must have a professional plan to learn about these cultures. It includes a commitment to boosting own cultural competency on both cultures, seeking out new ideas and perspectives continuously, treating the westerners and Arabs how they want to be treated, observing diverse traditions, celebrations, and cultures from the two cultures, and contributing to the cultural diversity of one’s working place through borrowing some of the best practices practiced in the two diverse cultures(Fisher-Borne et al.,2015). With this and continuous desire to learn and develop oneself to be culturally competent, diversity and inclusivity are achieved in organizations.

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